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REPORT OF
**Montana "White House" Conference
on Education**

Helena, Montana
October 7-8, 1955



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The above picture is of the Charles M. Russell painting which covers one wall of the legislative chambers in the state capitol building in Helena, Montana. It was in this room that the general sessions of the Montana Conference on Education were held October 7-8, 1955

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the explorations of Lewis and Clark to that part of our great nation which now is the State of Montana. The scene depicted in the magnificent painting is of an episode described in the Lewis & Clark Journal, and is of a meeting which took place on approximately the same date — 150 years earlier—as the dates of Montana's conference.

Modern Montanans are grateful to the pioneers who followed Lewis and Clark, and to the thousands of settlers who, through comparatively few short years, have established and—often at great sacrifice—maintained a system of free public education for the children of the state. They in turn recognize their responsibilities to present and future generations who are the pioneers for tomorrow.

Montana "White House" Conference on Education
Helena, Montana

ORGANIZATION

The Governor of Montana

J. Hugo Aronson
Ex-Officio Chairman

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mary M. Condon
Ex-Officio Member

Conference Chairman

Russ B. Hart

Governor's Pilot Committee

Mr. Russ B. Hart	Hart-Albin Company, Department Store Executive	Billings
Miss Lulu Barnard	County Superintendent of Schools, Flathead County.....	Kalispell
Mr. Robert B. Farnsworth	City Superintendent of Schools	Great Falls
Mr. R. L. Irle	City Superintendent of Schools....	Glasgow
Senator David F. James (D)	Farmer	Joplin
Mr. Fred Martin	Newspaper Publisher	Livingston
Mrs. Jake Mast	Rancher's Wife	Bozeman
Mr. R. H. Robinson	Lawyer, Western Bank Building, Missoula	
Mr. Austin G. Thompson	Labor Representative	Great Falls
Mrs. Kenneth Todd	Housewife	Helena
Senator Paul Working (R)	Merchant	Wilsall

Consultants

Mr. John N. Swenson	Field Representative White House Conference on Education.....Boulder, Colo.
Mr. Henry Toy, Jr.	Executive Director, National Citizens Commission for Public SchoolsNew York City, N. Y.
Mr. Kenneth Dobelbower	Regional Director, National Citizens Commission for Public SchoolsSacramento, Calif.
Mr. D. D. Cooper	Executive Director M.E.A.....Helena, Mont.
Mr. Jack Reid	State Board of Equalization, Helena, Mont.
Mr. Ed Byrne	State Board of Equalization, Helena, Mont.
Dr. Maurice Taylor	Montana State College.....Bozeman, Mont.
Dr. Roy Hoffman	Montana State College.....Bozeman, Mont.
Dr. Roy J. Ely	Montana State University, Missoula, Mont.
Mr. Ingolf Birkeland	President Montana School Boards' AssociationFort Benton, Mont.
Mr. Art Neill	Executive Secretary Montana Taxpayers AssociationHelena, Mont.
Mrs. Marion Crawford	State President of P.T.A.Laurel, Mont.
Mrs. George Chambers	State Board of Education, Cut Bank, Mont.
Mrs. Genevieve Petro	State Board of Education 16 South TracyMiles City, Mont.
Mr. George LundReserve, Mont.

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President Dwight Eisenhower Asks for Study of Educational Problems

President Eisenhower, in his January 7, 1954, State-of-the-Union Message, said, "The education of the nation's youth is being seriously neglected . . . In order to appraise the needs (of education), I hope that this year a conference on education will be held in each state, culminating in a national conference . . . From these conferences on education, every level of government—from the Federal Government to each local school board—should gain the information with which to attack these serious problems."

He continued to urge these conferences in his message on January 6, 1955, saying, "It is the inalienable right of every citizen, from childhood on, to have access to knowledge. In our form of society, this right of the individual takes on a special meaning, for the education of all our citizens is imperative to the maintenance and invigoration of America's free institutions.

"Today, we face grave educational problems. Effective and up-to-date analysis of these problems and their solutions are being carried forward through the individual State Conferences and the White House Conference to be completed this year.

"However, such factors as population growth, additional responsibilities of schools, and increased and longer school attendance have produced an unprecedented classroom shortage. This shortage is of immediate concern to all our people. Positive, affirmative action must be taken now.

"Without impairing in any way the responsibilities of our States, localities, communities, or families, the Federal Government can and should serve as an effective catalyst in dealing with this problem."

Governor's Statement

When President Eisenhower asked me to take steps to inaugurate a plan for a Montana State Conference on Education as part of the White House Conference on Education, I was very happy to comply with his request. Certainly a high standard of education for our youth is one to which every state should aspire. With the tremendous growth of school enrollments both now and projected for the future, this problem of achieving and maintaining a high standard is a difficult one.

I believe that we are now engaged through our many community, regional and state conferences, in taking a step toward the achievement of the goal which we all want. The general public must become informed of the problem and must take an interest in the problem.

I am convinced that we can then carry out a program of planning and financing the kind of an educational system to which our young people are entitled. I hope that this Montana Conference on Education will form a basis for continued study of this most important question.



(PHOTO BY MEL RUDER FOR HUNGRY HORSE NEWS)

Sparse population necessitates many small schools. Where crowded classrooms are not a problem.

Part One

Pre-Planning and Organization of the Montana "White House" Conference on Education

At a meeting of the Pilot Committee for the State Conference on Education held in Helena on March 12th, the following plan was adopted:

1. It was suggested that the Governor write to the County Commissioners in each county asking them to appoint delegates from that county who would represent the county at a Regional Conference. These delegates so far as possible should represent lay people rather than professional educators. However, in the cases of counties entitled to four or more delegates, it would be desirable to have one educator included in the list of delegates. The Governor would suggest that County Commissioners appoint not more than one person from each profession or occupation so as to get as wide a variety of views as possible. Attention should be given to selecting competent people who are really interested in educational problems of their communities.
2. All County Superintendents of Schools would be entitled to attend the Regional Conferences as ex-officio members of their county delegation but not as voting delegates. This is very important in order that the county delegation have some one along to act as a consultant.
3. It was suggested that the Governor write to the County Commissioners and ask for appointments and acceptances so that this part of the work could be completed by April 9th.
4. It was suggested that between April 9th and May 31st the delegates of the counties should do all they can to learn what county sentiment is on the various problems and questions which are to be discussed at the Regional Conference. This could take the form of meetings with P.T.A. groups, Chambers of Commerce, Service Clubs, Labor Unions, Farmer Organizations, etc. It could take the form of straw votes or opinion polls on certain phases of the educational question. Certain counties might want to have their own County Conference in advance of the Regional Conference. The important thing is that when the delegates go to the Regional Conference, they should be prepared to express the opinion of the county citizens with regard to the question to be discussed, not just their own opinions.

5. The Regional Conferences would be held between June 6th to June 17th on an assignment of dates to be decided by the Pilot Committee. Not all Regional Conferences would be held on the same date. This staggering of dates was done so that various members of the Pilot Committee, of the State Department of Education, etc., could attend more than one of the Regional Conferences.
6. The State Conference on Education would be held in Helena, Montana, on October 7th and October 8th. A manner of devising the number of delegates from each of the regions to attend the State Conference would be decided at the next meeting of the Pilot Committee which was scheduled for April 2nd in Helena.
7. The written report on the Montana State Conference must be finished by October 15th.
8. Nine Regional Conferences were set-up. Counties would be entitled to delegates to the Regional Conferences based on county population as per the 1950 U. S. Census. Counties with population of 5,000 or less, 2 delegates; county population 5,000 to 10,000, 3 delegates; population 10,000 to 20,000, 4 delegates; 20,000 to 30,000, 5 delegates; 30,000 to 40,000, 6 delegates; 40,000 and over, 7 delegates. The Regional Conferences were set-up as follows:

Missoula—	7 counties — pop. 118,025 — 29 delegates Missoula 6, Lake 4, Sanders 3, Mineral 2, Ravalli 4, Flathead 6, Lincoln 4.
Butte—	6 counties — pop. 96,411 — 21 delegates Silver Bow 7, Granite 2, Beaverhead 3, Powell 3, Deer Lodge 4, Jefferson 2.
Bozeman—	6 counties — pop. 51,033 — 18 delegates Gallatin 5, Park 4, Sweet Grass 2, Madison 3, Meagher 2, Broadwater 2.
Great Falls--	5 Counties — pop. 110,629 — 21 delegates Cascade 7, Chouteau 3, Pondera 3, Teton 3, Lewis & Clark 5.
Havre—	5 counties — pop. 52,004 — 16 delegates Hill 4, Blaine 3, Liberty 2, Glacier 2, Toole 3.
Glasgow—	6 counties — pop. 44,483 — 18 delegates Valley 4, Daniels 2, Sheridan 3, Roosevelt 4, McCone 2, Phillips 3.
Miles City—	8 counties — pop. 54,556 — 22 delegates Custer 4, Wibaux 2, Powder River 2, Richland 4, Fallon 2, Prairie 2, Dawson 4, Carter 2.

Billings---	6 counties -- pop. 98,372 --- 21 delegates Yellowstone 7, Carbon 3, Stillwater 3, Big Horn 3, Rosebud 3, Treasure 2.
Lewistown---	7 counties — pop. 30,088 — 17 delegates Fergus 4, Golden Valley 2, Musselshell 3, Garfield 2, Judith Basin 2, Petroleum 2, Wheatland 2.

9. The above totals 183 delegates from all over the state who **will** be attending 9 different Regional Conferences. In addition, of course, there would be another 56 County Superintendents who would be attending the conferences. This means that the largest conference in Missoula would have 29 delegates and 7 County Superintendents. The other conferences would vary from 16 delegates and 21 total in attendance to 22 delegates and 32 total in attendance. These Regional Conferences would be small enough that they could be conducted as a workshop type of conference and some definite conclusions on various questions could perhaps be reached.

Policy on Discussion Subjects

At the meeting of the Pilot Committee in Helena on March 12th, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Primary emphasis shall be on problems of elementary and secondary education, but keeping firmly in mind that Montana also must finance an expanding of higher education."

It was decided that the following should be the primary areas of discussion which should be followed at the County, Regional and State levels:

1. What should our schools accomplish?
2. How can we get enough competent teachers---and keep them?
3. What should be done to meet our school building and equipment needs? Our transportation needs?
4. In view of the needs developed from our answers to questions 1, 2 and 3, can we finance this program? How?

It was decided that a number of sub-topics under each of these heads should be listed and this material put together as a suggested outline for discussion purposes. This material was then sent to each delegate to be used as a basis for his discussions in the county in

ascertaining public opinion regarding these questions. It also served as an outline of discussion subjects for the Regional Conference and later at the State Conference. In this manner the various counties discussed questions along similar lines so that more could be accomplished at the State Conference.

This suggested outline followed rather closely the "areas of discussion" which will be developed at the White House Conference in Washington. It seemed desirable that our State Conference confine itself to these "areas of discussion" so that Montana delegates would be in a better position to participate constructively in the White House Conference.

In addition to this suggested outline of discussion questions, it was decided that the State Department of Public Instruction should also develop background material to aid delegates in the various counties. This background material was approved by the Pilot Committee before being distributed to the delegates.

Names of consultants available in each region were suggested. These consisted of professional educators from the various units of the University of Montana, local school superintendents, members of staff of the State Department of Public Instruction, etc., who could give professional advice on technical questions, if asked. Inasmuch as most of the delegates were lay people, such technical advice was necessary if intelligent opinions were to be formed. However, these consultants' services were merely offered, not required. The consultants were instructed to limit their contributions to factual information only.

The following questions were defined by the Pilot Committee and generally used in the County and Regional as well as the State Conference:

Problem 1. — **What Should Our Schools Accomplish?**

SOME QUESTIONS YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER:

1. What are the main purposes of the school?
What about citizenship? Reading, writing, and arithmetic?
Art? Music? Health and physical education? Scholarship?
College preparation? Vocational efficiency? Character training?
2. What studies **now** offered are **not** needed.
What subjects **not** offered **are** needed?

3. Are our present teaching methods effective? Why or why not?
4. Are teaching and learning materials adequate?
5. Are we meeting the individual needs of pupils? Are we providing for the special needs of handicapped or gifted children?

Problem 2. — **How Can We Get Enough Competent Teachers and Keep Them?**

SOME QUESTIONS YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER:

1. What kind of professional training do teachers need?
2. What are certification standards in Montana and how well are they met?
3. How do local teachers' salaries compare with teachers' salaries over the state and in other states? With salaries in other professions and occupations?
4. Are you getting enough competent teachers to meet the needs of your school system?
5. Are policies of tenure, retirement and working conditions adequate?
6. How can we encourage more high school and college graduates to select teaching as a career? Are there any other sources of teacher supply?
7. In view of our needs, are our teacher training facilities in Montana adequate?
8. What can we do to keep the teachers we have from leaving the profession?
9. Can the school system make better use of the teacher's time?

Problem 3. — **What Should Be Done to Meet Our School Building and Equipment Needs? Our Transportation Needs?**

SOME QUESTIONS YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER:

1. What constitutes an adequate school plant?
2. How well met are school building standards for health, safety and education?

3. Are we planning **now** to meet our present and future building needs? Can these needs be financed under our present law? Do we have localities which might need State or Federal Aid?
4. Are we making full use of present school facilities?
5. Are there sound policies of school building maintenance?
6. How adequate and how well financed is the school transportation service? Can it be operated more economically and efficiently without sacrificing safety?
7. Is the school plant available for community use? Should it be?

Problem 4. — In View of the Needs Developed From Our Answers to Questions 1, 2 and 3 Can We Finance This Program? How?

SOME QUESTIONS YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER:

1. What are the local and state enrollment trends; increase (decrease) _____ % last five years; expected increase _____ % next five years?
2. How are present costs being met _____ % local property tax; _____ % county property tax; _____ % state; _____ % federal?
3. What should be the obligation of the state in paying school costs? What percent on the average should the state pay?
4. What should be done in the equalization of educational opportunity with the use of state funds?
5. Is more Federal aid needed?
6. What local standards should be required for participation in state aid?
7. What is Montana's financial foundation program? Is it adequate?
8. Can we organize our system of school districts for more efficiency and economy?
9. If present financial sources are inadequate to meet needs, how should we raise the additional money?
 - (A) Increase district and county tax mill levies on property?
 - (B) Increase property assessments in counties which are now under-assessed?
 - (C) Impose State tax millage levies on property for Elementary and Secondary schools in addition to present University levy?

(D) Increase personal and corporation income tax?

(E) Sales tax?

On the subject "How to attract and keep teachers," in the majority of Conferences the requirement of at least a degree of all teachers was endorsed, with the general recognition that in some instances some type of certificate would be issued for two years of training, provided the recipient attended summer session each year until the degree was earned. It was generally felt that teacher's salaries are inadequate. Teacher tenure needs study. All regions reporting favored some type of scholarships for teachers, and all stated, in effect that the community should give teachers the respect and prestige commensurate with their status in our society.

Concerning building needs it was generally agreed that all elementary schools should have a multi-purpose room. The regions reporting expressed the idea that school facilities should be available for other community use, provided the school program is not interfered with, and provided reimbursement for maintenance and custodial service is made.

Provision for a school building consultant in the State Department of Public Instruction was urged by virtually every Conference.

The last discussion topic, finance, brought expression, generally, that the principles embodied in the foundation program are proper, provided the schedules are adequate and that the state meets 100% of its share.

Present financial sources for the State were deemed inadequate to meet the needs of education. All regions urged that the bonding capacity be raised to 5% on the elementary and 5% on the high school district evaluation.

The necessity for the program of reclassification, re-evaluation and re-assessment of property was pointed out in every region reporting.

No region approved a state wide property tax for elementary and secondary education. It was felt that property tax is carrying too much of the burden now. About half of the delegates favored specifically increasing income and corporation license taxes, earmarking the increase for education, all regions mentioned this as a possible source of new revenue. No region reporting recommended a sales tax, though it was generally conceded that this source of income deserved study.

Present Federal aid programs should be continued, it was unanimously concurred, but opinions ranged from emphatic opposition to a feeling that "if the State won't meet its own needs, then the Federal government should."

County and Community Conferences

The State Pilot Committee encouraged all counties in the state to hold Community Conferences and County Conferences prior to the Regional Conferences. As soon as the County Commissioners had completed appointment of the various county delegates background materials were mailed to each delegate as well as copies of the four main problem areas and supplementary guide questions to be discussed. Also each delegate was mailed a workbook in which State figures were compared with National figures as regards enrollment increases, needs for teachers in classrooms, etc.

The Chairman of each of the County delegations was then encouraged to hold as many Community Conferences as possible culminating in a County Conference.

It is estimated that 20 County Conferences were held prior to the Regional Conferences. Some of the larger counties had as many as six Community Conferences within the County prior to the County Conference.

County delegates also contacted local organizations such as Service Clubs, P.T.A. groups, women's groups, labor groups, farm organizations, etc., to ascertain public opinion on the various questions which were to be discussed.

Some counties had straw votes on certain aspects of educational problems. It is with this background of sampling of county opinion that the County delegates prepared themselves to attend the Regional Conferences which were held in June.



High School Library

Part II

Nine Regional Conferences

Regional conferences were held in nine major cities in various geographical locations in the state during the month of June. Attending these conferences were the delegates from various counties in each region. Public attendance and participation was urged. Attendance at these nine two day conferences varied from 75 to 120 participants. Official delegates constituted about one-third of these participants. The other two-thirds were interested members of the general public. The ratio of laymen to educators was approximately two-to-one.

The regional conferences were conducted on a workshop basis, with four sessions devoted to the main problem areas as suggested by the State Pilot Committee.

Written reports and conclusions of all of these conferences were compiled and distributed to all delegates throughout the state.

Space prohibits duplicating the entire regional conference report. Each county superintendent as well as the state superintendent, and all members of the regional conference delegate groups have copies of these regional reports.

The following is a copy of the condensed summary of the Regional Conference findings as distributed to the press:

"Common ideas expressed in the reports indicate that the people of Montana have much common ground for their ideas on education.

Generally expressed were the attitudes that the schools should give more attention to the "3R's" and to English, written and spoken, that courses for college preparation and vocational education should be available to all students. Present teaching methods are generally considered effective, with the idea that if workbooks are used they should merely be supplemental to regular learning methods.

Too much emphasis on competitive inter-scholastic commercialized athletics, and not enough on proper physical education and intra-mural athletics was generally deplored. Also, the failure to challenge the gifted child to do his best was pointedly criticized."

Regional Conferences

	Chairman	Co-Chairman
BUTTE—June 6-7	John N. Newland 2924 State Street	George Haney Supt. of Schools
LEWISTOWN—June 6-7	Mrs. Elton Parrish 322 West Montana	Don Foster Supt. of Schools Moore, Montana
GREAT FALLS—June 8-9	William H. Swanberg 618 5th Avenue N.	Karl W. Erickson 2604 3rd Ave So.
GLASGOW—June 8-9	Robert Cotton Glasgow	C. R. Cahill Nashua
BOZEMAN—June 13-14	Dean Chaffin Bozeman	Dr. Jim Nickerson State College
MILES CITY—June 13-14	Charles Peck 109 So. Merriam	Charles Hood Supt. of Schools
MISSOULA—June 15-16	Oakley Coffee Missoula Drug	C. E. Naugle Big Fork
BILLINGS—June 15-16	Norman Hanson Electric Building	M. C. Gallagher Supt. of Schools
HAVRE—June 17-18	Gordon Twedt Rudyard, Montana	H. B. Ensrud Supt. of Schools

Program for Regional Conferences on Education

First Day

9:00-10:00 a.m.	Registration and assignment of delegates to discussion groups.
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Opening explanatory remarks, division of delegates and public into three discussion groups. Group 1—What should our schools accomplish? Group 2—How can we get and keep enough competent teachers? Group 3—What should be done to meet our school building and equipment needs? Our transportation needs?
4:00 p.m.	County delegates from each group prepare report for evening meeting, and select one of number to make report to 7:30 meeting.

6:00 p.m.	Delegates' no-host dinner (if desired)	
7:30 p.m.	Public meeting. (either arrangement)	
to		
9:45 p.m.	Report, Group 1 (10 min.) (15 minutes discussion)	Report, Group 1 (10 min.)
	Report, Group 2 (10 min.) (15 minutes discussion)	Report, Group 2 (10 min.) Report, Group 3 (10 min.)
	Report, Group 3 (10 min.) (15 minutes discussion)	Discussion for 30-45 min. of reports
	Panel of tax consultants	Panel of tax consultants

Second Day

9:00 a.m.	(General session, open to public) Discussion by all county delegates of Problem 4 "In view of the needs developed by groups 1, 2, 3, can Montana finance this program—How?" Tax ex- perts serve as consultants.
12:30 Noon	No-host luncheon (delegates)
1:30 p.m.	Delegates summarize findings, prepare report for state meeting.

Part III

State "White House" Conference on Education

The State Conference was planned on the suggested set-up for the White House Conference. Each of the four topics was to be discussed simultaneously at sixteen tables, averaging nine to twelve people at each table. The chairman had very carefully assigned to these tables a cross-section of occupational interests and geographical diversity. The chairmen for each table were those individuals who had been regional chairmen or co-chairmen.

At each table recorders were appointed by the table chairman to summarize the findings at the end of each topic discussion.

At the conclusion of each group meeting, the recorders from each of the sixteen tables, met with a member of the State Pilot Committee, who acted as chairman for the summarization of the recorders' reports. Thus, there were four recorders meetings, one for each topic discussed. These summaries of the recorders reports constituted the state report.

The chairman of the conference presided at the opening meeting. Our invocation was given by the Reverend Nels H. Norbeck of St. John's Lutheran Church, Helena. This was followed by the Governor's speech, and an introduction of platform guests.

The chairman briefly outlined the agenda for the conference and explained the procedure to be followed. The delegates were dismissed to convene at their table. Each delegate had been assigned to a specific table in advance, and his badge carried this assignment.

Governor's Address

White House Conference on Education

In September of 1954, just over a year ago, President Eisenhower wrote me in regards to Public Law 530, which had just been passed by Congress. This Law gave Americans the opportunity to determine what steps at local, state and national levels were necessary to insure the best possible education for our youth.

It was and is recognized by everyone that we have serious educational problems. Teacher shortages, classroom deficiencies, increased enrollment and a continuing financial problem are among some of our problems. Many communities are dealing with these problems in good shape, but the fact show that overall we are falling behind rather than catching up.

The primary responsibility for meeting these problems must lie with the local communities, with the State and Federal governments helping to strengthen education but not interfering with its administration. We in Montana have made a wonderful start towards equalizing educational opportunity throughout the state through our Foundation program. We have solved some of our problems temporarily, but what we should search for are more permanent solutions. Our efforts in the tax equalization field are in that category.

Last March 12th, the Pilot Committee resolved that, "Primary emphasis shall be on problems of elementary and secondary education, but keeping in mind that Montana must also finance an expanding system of higher education."

I believe this a fine statement of this study program.

The strength of this nation is its people. Educated people greatly enhance the strength and vitality of any community. This conference on the State level, following the County and Regional conferences, is most gratifying. The attendance and interest has been great. People from all walks of life, from both political parties are putting their heads together by joint study, planning and mobilization of resources to develop action programs. I have been very pleased at the interest shown and work already accomplished and wish to compliment all of you for your participation. However, much remains to be done. Your consideration here and the considerations in Washington must be undertaken seriously. There will be a wide divergence of thoughts and opinions. From them we hope to get a meeting of minds which will permit an action program to give long range solutions to many of our problems.

I believe a word of explanation is due you on the choice of delegates to the White House Conference in Washington. Because of the shortage in time in which these names had to be in Washington, I announced the appointments on September 27th. I followed the plan used in most other states; that is, to have the Pilot Committee make the selections. I have chosen the delegates on the basis of the Pilot Committee's choices. Seven of the delegates are lay people and three are educators representing diverse political and conomic groups and with a wide geographical distribution so that all parts of Montana are represented as well as possible. I realize that several people who were not chosen are somewhat disappointed, but I want you to know that we have sincerely tried to pick representatives who have the interests of the state, the nation and education of our young people at heart.

You have much work to do, and I welcome you here to Helena. I want to thank you for coming and displaying the interest you have. May your deliberations be productive.

Description of Conference

Following instructions from the Conference Chairman as to the general procedure of the Conference, the delegates were directed to their sixteen discussion tables. These discussion tables were in separate rooms, six of them in the Historical Building and ten of them in the Capitol Building. Delegates assigned to each of the tables remained at that same table for all four discussion periods of the Conference.

By 10:40 a.m., the delegates were in session at the various tables discussing the first workshop session question, "What are our School Building and Equipment Needs?" This session was concluded at 12:15 amid many comments of participants that "we wish we had more time to discuss this subject."

A buffet luncheon was then served in the Capitol Building to all registered delegates.

Delegates returned to their discussion table rooms at 1:15 for the second workshop session on "What Should our Schools Accomplish?" It proved a little difficult to wind up this discussion at the appointed time but most discussion chairmen enforced the necessary deadline so that delegates could return after a brief rest period to take up the third discussion question "How Can We Get Enough Competent Teachers and Keep Them?"

This third workshop session was scheduled to break up at 5:15 but some ran as late as 5:30 to 5:45.

The Conference Banquet in the Ballroom of the Placer Hotel was attended by some two hundred persons with Chairman Russ Hart presiding. The invocation was sung by Mr. George Lewis, chorus director of Helena High School who also later sang several selections accompanied by Mrs. Lewis. Introductions were brief and informal. Chairman Hart introduced Governor Aronson and Mrs. Aronson. Governor Aronson expressed his satisfaction and appreciation of the wonderful attendance at the Conference.

The Chairman introduced Miss Mary Condon, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, thanking her and her staff for the excellent cooperation received in planning and conducting the conference. Also introduced at the banquet were the sixteen discussion table chairmen who had previously acted as Regional Chairmen and Co-Chairmen in their respective regions. The consultants and delegates at large were also introduced.

The main speech of the evening was delivered by Mr. Henry Toy, Jr., Executive Director of the National Citizen's Commission for Public Schools. Following Mr. Toy's speech many of the delegates remained to see the excellent movie produced by the N. E. A., "Mike Makes His Mark."

Saturday morning, October 8th, the fourth workshop session on "How Can We Finance Our Education Program" began at 9:30 and was concluded about 12:15. Following luncheon, the delegates assembled in the House Chambers in the Capitol Building for the final session of the Conference. At this time, reports from the four discussion sessions were presented. These reports had been compiled by the recorders meetings with a recorder present from each of the sixteen discussion tables. The Chairman explained that since reports were summaries of opinions from the various discussion tables and that since minority viewpoints would be presented in the reports as well as the majority viewpoints there did not seem to be too much reason to debate the questions involved; however, any omissions or clarifications in the reports should be made from the floor and open discussion on such a basis would be welcomed.

The first Conference Report "What Should Our Schools Accomplish" was presented by Mrs. G. W. Deschamps of Missoula. The report was adopted unanimously as read with no corrections from the floor.

Mr. R. L. Irle of Glasgow presented the next report "What Should Be Done to Meet Our School Building and Equipment Needs." There were some discussions and amendments from the floor on this report after which it was unanimously adopted.

The report on "How Can We Get Enough Competent Teachers and Keep Them" was presented by Mrs. Kenneth Todd of Helena. Several changes in the phraseology of this report were suggested from the floor and certain points were clarified by amendments from the floor. Following the discussion and amendments the report, as amended, was unanimously adopted.

The final report "How Can We Finance Our Schools" was delayed in presentation because of its having been the last discussion subject during the morning.

While waiting for the presentation of this report, the Chairman explained the method of selecting the State delegates to the Washington Conference. He pointed out that Montana had followed the practice of many Western states in having the State Committee recommend names of the ten Montana delegates who were then appointed by the Governor. He stated that the Governor had accepted all recommendations of the State Committee and that all ten people nominated had been appointed and had accepted.

He stated that consideration had been given to having these delegates elected at the State Conference, but the State Committee had felt it wiser to pursue the course adopted for these reasons: (1) The State Conference was on a very tight time schedule to complete its sessions in the two days allotted and would probably have had to go to a three day conference were the delegates to try to select the ten Montana representatives to Washington. (2) The White House

Conference Committee in Washington was most anxious that these names be sent in as soon as possible in order to make table assignments, clear hotel reservations, etc., and that since the Montana Conference was held very late it was deemed advisable to make the selections at the State Conference meeting on September 16th so that the names could be received in Washington before October 1st. (3) Third and most important was the desirability of the Montana delegation being a good cross-section of various occupations, interests and geographical sections of the state. For the above reasons, the State Committee decided that this difficult problem could best be handled in the manner adopted. The Chairman stated that the State Committee had met on September 16th from ten a.m. to four p.m. in discussing this subject. Many names were considered as it was a very difficult task to select only ten from among the many qualified people throughout the state. He expressed the opinion that there were at least fifteen or twenty other names the committee would like to have selected on the basis of hard work performed at the County and Regional Level. However, with only ten delegates permitted it was impossible to name all who were qualified.

Criteria used in making this selection were based on recommendations from the White House Conference Committee, as well as some localized Montana considerations. The White House Conference recommendations included the following:

1. The delegation should include preferably two or more non-educators to each educator.
2. The delegation should be as diversified as possible in terms of racial, religious, political, economic and social backgrounds.
3. Delegates should have shown an interest in education by their previous participation in the County, Regional and State Conferences.

Other qualifications considered were:

1. An attempt to get a good geographical representation from different parts of the state.
2. Consideration as to the persons' connection with organizations which would prove helpful in future work of carrying out recommendations of either the Washington or Helena White House Conference.
3. Ability to present the views of the Montana State Conference, not only in Washington, but in the various communities in which the delegates live.

Educators

Karl Erickson—Great Falls

President of the Montana Education Association. He is a class

room teacher in the Great Falls Senior High School
Miss Lulu Barnard—Kalispell
County Superintendent of Schools, Flathead County
Immediate Past President of Montana School Boards
Association
Past President of Montana County Superintendents Association
Mr. R. L. Irle—Glasgow
Superintendent of Schools, Glasgow. Former President
Montana Education Association. Member of Montana
Administrators Association.

Non-Educators

Mrs. Marion Crawford—Laurel
President, Montana Congress of Parents and Teachers
Mr. Austin Thompson—Great Falls
Secretary to the Great Falls Local, Teamsters Union No. 45 AFL
Mr. Art Neill—Helena
Executive Secretary, Montana Taxpayers Association. Mr.
Neill is a former teacher.
Mr. John W. Newland—Butte
Certified Public Accountant. He was chairman of the Butte
Regional Conference on Education held in June.
Mr. Gordon Twedt—Rudyard
Mr. Twedt is a farmer. He was chairman of the Havre Regional
Conference on Education held in June. He has served as a
member of the Rudyard School Board.
Mrs. G. W. Deschamps—Route 2, Missoula
Mrs. Deschamps is the wife of a prominent cattle man and
rancher. She was chairman of the Missoula County Confer-
ence on Education.
Russ Hart—Billings
Business man. Chairman of the Montana White House
Conference on Education.

Following the announcement of names of the White House Conference delegates, the final report on "How Can We Finance Our Schools" was presented to the conference by Mr. Charles Peck of Miles City, Chairman of the Miles City Regional Conference. This report very carefully pointed out the differences of opinion as between the various table discussion groups; minority viewpoints on the various tax questions were included in the report. There was some

discussion on the floor on one or two points. After these were clarified by amendments, the report was adopted unanimously by the delegates attending.

A resolution was unanimously adopted by the Conference recommending that the State Pilot Committee study methods of setting up some sort of statewide citizen's organization for the continuing study of school problems in Montana possibly looking forward to more statewide conferences in future years.

The Conference Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Conference Comments

The entire program of the White House Conference on Education was based on "grassroots" participation. Delegates to the 9 Regional Conferences and the State Conference were selected by the County Commissioner in each of Montana's 56 counties.

Delegates included those from labor and management, farmers, housewives, professions, civil authorities, lay people and professional educators.

These conferences acquainted many lay people with problems of education, of which they had little or no previous knowledge. They demonstrated to the educators that the lay people have a real desire to become more familiar with, not only the problems of the educational system, as such, but that they have a sincere desire to help solve the personal problem of the school teacher—his salary—his ability to secure adequate housing—to improve his professional status, and want to attempt to work together with him to meet the needs of our young people.

The State Conferences reflected the sound judgment of the delegates and leadership ability of the chairmen of the Regional and State Conferences.

It is the unanimous opinion of the delegates that the Montana Conference on Education was successful and that it should be continued. The Pilot Committee was so instructed by the delegates.

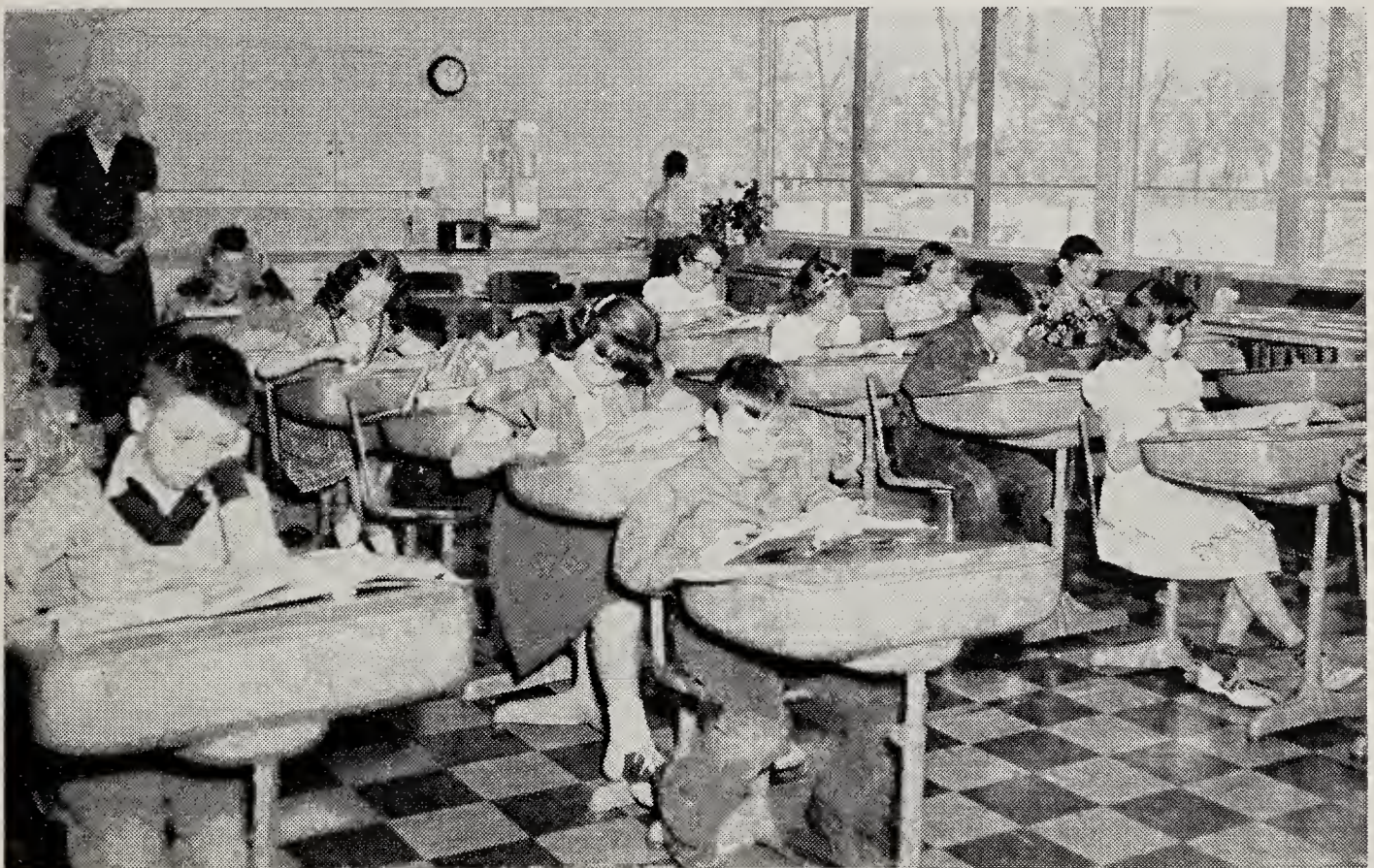
CONFERENCE REPORTS

I. What Should Our Schools Accomplish?

In answer to this question, it is recognized that, in general, the objectives of health, citizenship, character building and the **command** of the fundamental processes, such as the learning tools, vocational training, stable home membership, and moral responsibility are still the desired aims and goals of our educational system. Every effort should be made to achieve these goals.

In elementary schools, it appears that more emphasis should be placed on the teaching of reading, writing, spelling, mathematics and grammar. Recognition should be given to the importance of the social sciences, history and basic studies in the field of the physical sciences. A need for training in public speaking was expressed due, perhaps, to the trend in public service. While the basic responsibility for character building should rest with the home, efforts to incorporate throughout the school curricula a spirit of integrity, morality and spiritual responsibility is desirable. Also, that the study of the arts, such as music, is needed in many parts of this state. Plans to include such courses should be implemented by utilizing such new concepts in teaching as a traveling specialist, perhaps with the thought of bringing to our outlying, isolated schools a broader field of study.

It was believed a healthier situation could exist in our school program when less emphasis is given to inter-scholastic team athletics



Johnny can read, and Susie can, too!

at both the elementary and the secondary level. To provide a more adequate balance, a broad and all inclusive physical education program is recommended. Consideration might well be given to the elimination of the championship feature in inter-scholastic sports.

It appears that most of the subjects now taught in our schools are needed; additional ones depend entirely upon the demands of the respective communities. It was the opinion of the delegates that every student should be required to master the fundamental subjects as a minimum requirement. In addition to this, however, student guidance and counselling, driver training, conservation of natural resources and vocational training, were courses believed to be necessary parts of a modern day curriculum. Counselling for choosing of study courses should be given to the high school student in his first or second year of secondary education.

Teaching methods are generally acceptable. However, constant efforts should be made to improve them. Careful supervision is urged in the use of visual and audio aids, and TV education in order that these techniques be properly and effectively employed.

The use of "workbook" teaching and objective testing should be carefully used and supplemented, lest the student be deprived of expression and experience in formative thinking. To better establish a more uniform and effective curriculum it is suggested that the state course of study be modernized and made available to all school systems.

We do not appear to be meeting the needs of our gifted students as of today, but the need is recognized and wherever possible an effort should be made to develop fully the individual student's abilities. Deserving students should be encouraged to seek and accept the scholarships in the fields where they are offered. While recent legislation offers an approach to the handicapped child's problems, more attention should be given this matter. It is recommended that special attention within the present school system be given whenever possible to both the above groups. Recognition should be given here to those sincere teachers, who give and have given in the past every extra measure of service and devotion to aid and teach students of both of these non-average groups.

This report is hereby submitted for the record.

II. How Can We Get Enough Competent Teachers and Keep Them?

QUESTION 1: What kind of professional training do teachers need?

1. It was universally agreed that the standard of professional teaching must be kept on a high level.
2. That a four-year training period for all should be required, except in extreme emergency.
3. That special training for rural teachers be afforded.
4. That higher institutions should attempt to screen prospective teachers.
5. That some breadth of training beyond qualified requirements be encouraged.
6. That better methods of teaching at all levels be achieved.

QUESTION 2: What are certification standards in Montana and how well are they met?

1. It was generally conceded that the certification standards now existing encourage growth.
2. The necessity of clarifying "emergency" certificates was recognized.
3. It was recommended that "emergency" certificates were necessary in extreme cases but some changes were suggested in these certificates.
 - a. Erase "emergency" for teachers with over two years' training.
 - b. Clear-cut understanding on the part of the teacher that if an "emergency" certificate is granted, there must be a continuation of earning college credits.
 - c. Emergency certificates may be granted until the "emergency" is erased.
4. The ultimate goal for all teachers would be a minimum of four years professional training. The teacher trained for two years should be permitted to teach, if willing to continue with his study.
5. Rural schools.
 - a. The certification at present is not being met in all rural schools.

- b. State financial aid should not be denied to rural schools where consolidation is impossible.
- c. Teaching in a rural school should not be considered as a step to a better position.
- 6. Authority for certification should be in the hands of the State Board of Education.
- 7. It was concluded that as long as sub-standard certificates are granted, the public cannot be convinced of the shortage of teachers or the inadequacy of salaries.

QUESTION 3: How do local teachers' salaries compare with teachers' salaries over the state and in other states? With salaries in other professions and occupation?

It was generally concluded that teachers' salaries are too low. The following suggestions were made in relation to salaries and comparisons with other occupations and professions.

- 1. Salaries should be comparable to those of the eleven western states.
- 2. Salaries should be increased until they meet the level of industrial scale for comparable training.
- 3. The question of compensating the superior teacher was discussed. It was unanimously agreed that County Superintendents should receive increases in salary due to their training and the responsibility involved in their job. Also, it was believed that State department employees should be paid increased salaries.

QUESTION 4: Are you getting enough competent teachers to meet the needs of your school system?

The universal answer of 16 tables was "no." A few suggestions were made as to how more teachers might be added to our profession.

- 1. A bill similar to the G. I. bill might be proposed to Congress, suggesting that a student who wished to teach would receive a monthly allowance for his teacher training, of course, with the guarantee that he would remain in the field of teaching. If he taught for one year, 25 per cent would be cancelled on his debt or if he taught for two years, 50 per cent would be cancelled on the debt. If he taught for three years, 75 per cent would be cancelled, and if he taught for four years, the entire debt would be erased.
- 2. Universities might consider some concession for students who enter the field of Education.

3. All scholarships offered for educational training should be explained to high school students.

QUESTION 5: Are policies of tenure, retirement and working conditions adequate?

Tenure.

1. Revision of tenure laws to impose legal obligations on teachers as well as school boards.
2. Recommendation was made that the probationary period under the tenure law be extended one year.
3. Tenure could be used as a selling point to secure teachers.

Retirement.

1. It was recommended that the retirement age be lowered to 65, with the following suggestions:
 - a. At the discretion of the school board, the employee might be retained until 70.
 - b. That if extension of time should be given, there should be complete agreement between employer and employee.

Working conditions.

It was recognized by the entire group that teachers should have satisfactory working conditions, in order that they might adequately meet the demands of their profession.

The teaching profession should implement its present code of ethics.

QUESTION 6: How can we encourage more high school and college graduates to select teaching as a career? Are there any other sources of teacher supply?

Part 1

1. The desirability of the profession should be emphasized.
2. The Future Teachers of America should be encouraged by P. T. A. groups and others.
3. A course in American Public Education was suggested for the 9th and 12th grades. Education courses might be offered in high school.
4. Teachers should express pride in their profession in order to help sell it.
5. Counselors should encourage interested and able students to enter the profession.

6. The increased need for better public relations on the part of the teacher and the community should further be explored.

Part 2

The following sources of teacher supply should be explored:

1. The man or woman over 45 who wants to change his life work.
2. Cadet teachers.
3. Married teachers who have left the profession and would like to return or who might be induced to return.

QUESTION 7: In view of our needs, are our teacher training facilities in Montana adequate?

The following suggestions would strengthen our teacher supply:

1. A clear-cut understanding on the part of the universities and colleges in the transference of credits.
2. More practical experience for student teachers.
3. Institutions should become more selective in choosing prospective teachers.
4. More uniformity of subject matter in teacher training is desirable.
5. Greater use of extension services could be made.
6. More qualified instructors in teacher training schools. It is realized that teacher training schools are at present insufficiently staffed and the faculty underpaid. The State Board of Education should be commended for authorizing the training of teachers for both the elementary and secondary levels at all teacher training institutions under its direction.

QUESTION 8: What can we do to keep the teachers we have from leaving the profession?

1. Permit them to live their own lives.
2. Encourage them to be a part of the community and to assume their normal share of community activities.
3. Provide desirable housing conditions.
4. Lessen the teacher load in and out of school.
5. Provide adequate salary schedules.
6. Promote the idea of the advantages of being a teacher.

It was suggested that a study be made of the reasons for leaving the profession, comparing the reason for teacher loss with other professions.

QUESTION 9: Can the school system make better use of the teacher's time?

The answer is yes. It was strongly recommended that:

1. More clerical help be given to county superintendents, administrators, and teachers, in order to relieve them of clerical duties.
 2. Reduce non-essential activities.
 3. Seek to eliminate unnecessary interruptions.
-

III. What Should Be Done to Meet Our School Building and Equipment Needs? Our Transportation Needs?

An adequate school plant should meet the minimum educational requirement of good physical health and well being, and the maximum desirable for the local community.

The ideal plant contains all of the following: (a) Buildings should be designed for future expansion. (b) Sufficient ground should be available to take care of any required expansion. (A minority requested that ample room for parking of cars be considered.) (c) Class rooms should be sufficient in number so that no more than 25 to 30 students would use a class room except 20 to 25 in the primary school and 20 in vocational classes. (d) The buildings should be well lighted and provide sufficient health facilities. (e) A teacher's room should be provided. (f) Multi-purpose rooms should be provided for some of the following activities: physical education, assemblies, community center meetings, music and art rooms, and similar purposes. (g) The buildings should be fire resistant. (h) A theatre section if provided should not be too large. (i) School equipment should be flexible and moveable. (j) One story buildings are preferable.

QUESTION 2. How well met are school building standards of health, safety and education?

The group agreed that new buildings are well constructed, but some old buildings leave much to be desired. It was recommended that careful study and revision of present building codes be made to incorporate engineering advances, permitting economy in construction and at the same time providing for the well being of the child.

QUESTION 3: Are we planning now to meet our present and future building needs? Can these needs be financed under our present law? Do we have localities which might need State or Federal Aid?

It was agreed that most districts need guidance in anticipating the needs of the future, and in developing long-range plans. The group

agreed that there should be a consultant at the State level whose duties would be to assist school boards in the planning of buildings, advising on location and assisting in bonding procedures.

It was agreed that most districts need help in becoming aware of future needs and wise community planning procedures. It was agreed that high school districts and elementary districts of which they are composed should be considered as separate entities for bonding purposes.

It was agreed that there are districts in Montana needing Federal aid due to the impact of Federal activities and that Public Laws 815 and 874 should be reenacted and continued. A minority pointed out that some small schools not in these impact areas also need aid for school construction.



**Elementary Classroom
Bozeman**

QUESTION 4: Are we making full use of present school facilities?

The group answered yes. Lack of instructors prevent some schools from taking advantage of all facilities. During the summer greater public use could be made of school buildings.

QUESTION 5: Are there sound policies of school building maintenance?

It was suggested that custodians be urged to attend training schools as a means of improving building maintenance. Only competent cus-

todians be employed. The group felt that there was a need to educate the public on the economy of day to day and year to year sound maintenance policies. However, since self-evaluation has been in operation, it has served to stimulate proper maintenance.

QUESTION 6: How adequate and how well financed is the school transportation service? Can it be operated more economically and efficiently without sacrificing safety?

The group stated that there is a definite correlation between good roads and transportation costs. It was suggested that a study be made of the possibility of including school buses with the state right of procurement of automobiles. Transportation in Montana requires a constant study in order to improve safety, efficiency and economy.

It was recommended by the group that the State Department and the Highway Patrol be commended for steps toward safety; physical examinations, first aid certificates, chauffeurs license for drivers, and rigid inspection of buses by the patrol are excellent.

QUESTION 7: Is the school plant available for community use. Should it be?

The group agreed that a **written** policy as to the use of the school plant by outside groups should be drawn up by the local school boards and the rules and regulations established therein should be rigidly enforced.

IV. How Can We Finance Our Education Program?

QUESTION 1: What are the local and state enrollment trends?

Our state enrollment trends indicate that we can expect continuing increase of about 25 per cent school enrollment during the next five years though this will vary between the counties of the state. A few small school districts expect no increase, but some school districts expect increases of more than 25 per cent.

QUESTION 2: How are present costs being met?

Table 10 moved that the state figures be used in the report relative to how present costs are being met. Seconded by Table 16 and carried. These are 32 per cent from local levies, 35 per cent from County sources, 31 per cent from State sources and 2 per cent from Federal funds.

QUESTION 3: What should be the obligation of the state in paying school costs? What per cent on the average should the state pay?

The State must be responsible for meeting its share of the Foundation Program, as the law reads.

Tables 10 and 13 recommended an increase of the state's portion of the Foundation Program from the present 30 per cent to 40 per cent.

Tables 10 and 7 further recommended the removal of the 50 per cent limitation on the state's share of the Foundation Program.

Tables 5, 15 and 16 recommended that the State equalize to 50 per cent over and above the Interest and Income Fund.

QUESTION 4: What should be done in the equalization of educational opportunity with the use of state funds?

On motion of Table 1, seconded by Table 9 and carried, the group agreed that our equalization program should be further refined, so as to remove existing inequalities. Tables 8, 13 and 14 suggested that a building program be included on the Equalization program.

QUESTION 5: Is more Federal aid needed?

Nine of the tables represented did not recommend additional federal aid unless it is established that local and state funds cannot provide a high standard of education.

Three of the tables were in favor of no additional federal aid under any circumstances.

Two of the tables would accept federal aid for construction only.

Two of the tables also recommended further study of federal aid on a national scale under an equalization program.

It was recommended that Public Laws 815 and 874 be continued but that existing inequities in them be corrected.

We unanimously recommend that a study be made as to the advisability of the Federal government being required to pay amounts, in lieu of taxes, to counties or to the state equivalent to income that would be derived if these Federal lands and properties were on the tax rolls.

QUESTION 6: What local standards should be required for participation in state aid?

On motion Table 6, seconded by Table 10, the group felt that the self-evaluation and standards set up by the Board of Education and Northwest Association for Accreditation were quite adequate and should be met.

QUESTION 7: What is Montana's financial foundation program? Is it adequate?

It was unanimously voted that Montana's financial Foundation Program is not adequate.

QUESTION 8: Can we organize our system of school districts for more efficiency and economy?

It was unanimously voted that we can organize our system of school districts for more efficiency and economy and that a study be made of these problems.

QUESTION 9: If present financial sources are inadequate to meet needs, how should we raise the additional money?

(A) Increase district and county tax mill levies on property?
It was unanimously voted "No".

(B) Increase property assessments in counties which are now under-assessed?

It was unanimously voted "Yes".

(C) Impose State Tax millage levies on property for Elementary and Secondary schools in addition to present university levy?

It was unanimously voted "No".

(D) Increase personal and corporation income tax?

It was unanimously voted "Yes".

(E) Sales tax?

None of the tables recommended that a sales tax be adopted.

Five tables recommended further study of the sales tax as a source of revenue.

It was unanimously recommended that the law providing for the reclassification of all property for assessment purposes be enforced and that counties proceed as rapidly as possible to equalize assessed valuations.

We also recommend a more thorough investigation of income from state lands.

It was recommended by Table 4 that an equitable taxation of hitherto tax free **productive holdings** of religious, educational or other organizations and institutions, be studied. (Not adopted.)

It was recommended by Table 12 that a thorough study be made of the possibility of the purchase of state and federal lands by private owners where feasible, enabling a return to the tax rolls of non-revenue land. (Not adopted.)

APPENDIX I

List of Delegates — etc.

Men		Women	
County Superintendents	5	County Superintendents	24
Teachers	4	Teachers	0
Administrative	12		
Total Educators	21	Total Educators	24
Total Men & Women Educators.....		45	
Farmers & Ranchers	32	Farm or Ranch Wife	13
Business & Professional	25	Business & Professional	1
		Other Housewives	20
Miscellaneous Occupations	14	Miscellaneous Occupation	6
Total Men	92	Total Women	64
Grand Total Men & Women.....		156	

Conference Chairman

RUSS B. HART

Governor's Pilot Committee

Mr. Russ B. Hart	Hart-Albin Co. Department Store Executive.....	Billings
Miss Lulu Barnard	County Supt. of Schools, Flathead Co.	Kalispell
Mr. Robert B. Farnsworth	City Superintendent of Schools	Great Falls
Mr. R. L. Irle	City Superintendent of Schools	Glasgow
Senator David F. James (D)	Farmer	Joplin
Mr. Fred Martin	Newspaper Publisher	Livingston
Mrs. Jake Mast	Rancher's Wife	Bozeman
Mr. R. H. Robinson	Lawyer, Western Bank Building	Missoula
Mr. Austin G. Thompson	Labor Representative	Great Falls
Mrs. Kenneth Todd	Housewife	Helena
Senator Paul Working (R)	Merchant	Wilsall

Consultants

Mr. John N. Swenson	Field Representative White House Conference on Education	Boulder, Colo.
Mr. Henry Toy, Jr.	Executive Director, National Citizens Commission for Public Schools.....	New York City, N. Y.
Mr. Kenneth Dobelbower	Regional Director National Citizens Commission for Public Schools	Sacramento, Calif.
Mr. D. D. Cooper	Executive Director M.E.A.	Helena, Mont.
Mr. Jack Reid	State Board of Equalization	Helena, Mont.
Mr. Ed Byrne	State Board of Equalization	Helena, Mont.
Dr. Maurice Taylor	Montana State College	Bozeman, Mont.
Dr. Roy Hoffman	Montana State College	Bozeman, Mont.
Dr. Roy J. Ely	Montana State University	Missoula, Mont.
Mr. Ingolf Birkeland	President Montana School Boards' Association	Fort Benton, Mont.
Mr. Art Neill	Executive Secretary Montana Taxpayers Association	Helena, Montana
Mrs. Marion Crawford	State President of P.T.A.	Laurel, Mont.
Mrs. George Chambers	State Board of Education	Cut Bank, Mont.
Mrs. Genevieve Petro	State Board of Education, 16 South Tracy	Miles City, Mont.
Mr. George Lund	Reserve, Mont.

Mr. W. H. Swanberg, Great Falls, Chairman—Attorney

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mr. Lloyd Markell Plentywood, Mont.	Sheridan	County Superintendent of Schools	GL
Mr. Pen Wright Absarokee, Montana	Stillwater	Rancher	BI
Mrs. Roy Nelson Plentywood, Montana	Sheridan	Homemaker	GL
Mr. W. A. Groff Victor, Montana	Ravalli	Banker	M
Mr. Steve A. Holt, Jr. Broadus, Montana	Powder River	Druggist	MC
Mr. William Personnen Chinook, Montana	Blaine	Superintendent of Schools	H
Mrs. Wilford Johnson Hall, Montana	Granite	Housewife (Rancher)	BU
Mrs. William Wortman Livingston, Montana	Park		BO

Mr. Robert S. Cotton, Valley, Chairman—Farmer

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mr. P. T. Hacker Ennis, Montana	Madison	Stock Rancher	BO
Miss Muriel S. Reiquam Choteau, Montana	Teton	County Superintendent of Schools	GF
Mr. John W. Cushman Red Lodge, Montana	Carbon	County Superintendent of Schools	BI
Mrs. Earl M. Hoke Plevna, Montana	Fallon	Housewife (Rancher)	MC
Mrs. G. W. Deschamps Route 2 Missoula, Montana	Missoula	Housewife (Cattle)	M
Mrs. Peter Meloy 1317 Ninth Avenue Helena, Montana	Lewis & Clark	Housewife	GF
Mr. Ralph Cook Elmore Apts. Great Falls, Montana	Cascade	Rancher—Sec'y. Treasurer Farmer's Union	GF
Mr. J. G. Lightfoot Fort Peck, Montana	Valley	Attorney—(Asst. Dist. Eng Fort Peck	
Mr. Guy Van Cleve 416 North Custer Avenue Hardin, Montana	Big Horn	Rancher	

Mr. George Haney, Butte, Chairman—Supt. Schools

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mr. Bill Johnstone Fort Benton, Montana	Chouteau	Superintendent of Schools	GF
Mrs. Laura P. Strand Hardin, Montana	Big Horn	County Superintendent of Schools	BI
Mr. D. P. Fabrick Choteau, Montana	Teton	Rancher	GF
Mrs. E. M. Tracy Ryegate, Montana	Golden Valley	Housewife	L
Mr. Lloyd Evans Libby, Montana	Lincoln	Lawyer	M
Mr. Vern Erickson 814 West Boulevard Lewistown, Montana	Fergus	Merchant	L
Mr. Don Tavenner Deer Lodge, Montana	Powell	Rancher	BU
Mr. Edward Zoner Glasgow, Montana	Valley	Rancher	

RECORDERS

Sessions 1 & 3—Mr. Bill Johnstone
Sessions 2 & 4—Mr. Vern Erickson

Mr. H. B. Ensrud, Havre, Chairman—Supt. Schools

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mrs. Ethel K. Sivertson Harlowton, Montana	Wheatland	County Superintendent of Schools	L
Mr. George M. Mungas Philipsburg, Montana	Granite	Rancher	BU
Mr. Dale V. Benge Volberg, Montana	Powder River	Farmer	MC
Mrs. Charles P. Buls 440 Connell Avenue Missoula, Montana	Missoula	Housewife	M
Mr. Mondell Bennett Haugan, Montana	Mineral	Automobile Dealer	M
Mr. Donald R. Frederickson c/o Frontier Motors Helena, Montana	Lewis & Clark	Automobile Dealer	GF
Mr. Goodwin Bergh Froid, Montana	Roosevelt	Farmer	GL
Mr. Clyde Brewer Roundup, Montana	Musselshell	Operator of Truck Line	L
Mr. Dick Willett Hardin, Montana (?)	Big Horn	Rancher	

RECORDERS

Session No. 1—Mrs. Charles P. Buls
Session No. 2—Mondell Bennett
Session No. 3—Mrs. Ethel K. Sivertson
Session No. 4—Mondell Bennett

Mr. C. E. Naugle, Big Fork, Chairman—Supt. Schools

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mr. H. R. Lawson Sunburst, Montana	Toole	Superintendent of Schools	BO
Mr. Edward J. Kunda Wibaux, Montana (?)	Wibaux	Farmer	MC
Mr. George S. Durland Route 2 Hamilton, Montana	Ravalli	Farmer	M
Mr. Charles W. Grandey Terry, Montana	Prairie	Retired	MC
Mrs. Frank Kerr Fair Addition Great Falls, Montana	Cascade	Steno & Housewife	GF
Mrs. Frances B. Stalcup Roundup, Montana	Musselshell	Housewife	L
Mrs. George Colby Joplin, Montana (?)	Liberty	Housewife	

Mrs. Elton Parrish, Lewistown, Chairman—Auto Dealer

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mrs. Roy Olson Anaconda, Montana	Deer Lodge	County Superintendent of Schools	BU
Mr. H. Ben Tetlie Big Timber, Montana	Sweet Grass	Rancher	BO
Miss Elsie Campbell Conrad, Montana	Pondera	Superintendent of Schools	GF
Mrs. Roy N. Juergens 1701 Fort Miles City, Montana	Custer	Housewife, Printing Supt.	MC
Mrs. H. K. Lembke 2045 So. 12th West Missoula, Montana	Missoula	Housewife, Bookkeeper	M
Mr. William J. Dunn 2101 Main Street Miles City, Montana	Custer	Postmaster	MC
Mr. Thomas F. McCartney Chinook, Montana	Blaine	Abstractor	H
Mr. Maurice Driscoll 2600 Elizabeth Warren Butte, Montana	Silver Bow	Vocational Director	BU
Mr. Paul K. Harlow Thompson Falls, Montana	Sanders	Dairy Farmer	M

Mr. Norman Hanson, Billings, Chairman—Attorney

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mrs. Zula Kyler Boulder, Montana	Jefferson	County Superintendent of Schools	BU
Mrs. Wayne Putz, Sr. Glasgow, Montana	Valley	County Superintendent of Schools	GL
Mr. George T. Colby Joplin, Montana (?)	Liberty	Farmer	H
Mr. Ingolf Birkeland Fert Benton, Montana	Choteau	Farmer	GF
Mrs. Bonnie Thomson Harlowton, Montana (?)	Wheatland	Housewife	L
Mr. Phil Chamberlain Whitefish, Montana	Flathead	Principal of Schools	
Mr. Larry F. Smith 2629 Edwards Butte, Montana	Silver Bow	Merchant, Store Manager	BU
Mrs. Lois Nelson Cut Bank, Montana (?)	Glacier	Rancher	H
Mr. Christian F. Denning 2501 Seventh Avenue North Great Falls, Montana	Cascade	Carpenter	GF
Mrs. Jean I. McKay R.F.D. Roberts, Montana	Carbon	Stockgrower	BI
Mr. Clive Farlin Anaconda, Montana	Deer Lodge	Smelterman	BU
Mrs. Marie Pust Lambert, Montana	Richland	Housewife	MC

Dr. Jim Nickerson, Bozeman, Chairman—Educator

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mr. Lowell P. Curtis Malta, Montana	Phillips	County Superintendent of Schools	GL
Mrs. Muriel Hamman Polson, Montana	Lake	County Superintendent of Schools	M
Mrs. Gladys L. Kreider Sand Springs, Montana	Garfield	Farmer	L
Mr. A. M. Peters Wibaux, Montana	Wibaux	Farmer	MC
Mrs. LaVerne Taylor County Auditor Court House Missoula, Montana	Missoula	County Auditor	M
Mr. Edwin E. Sykes Ekalaka, Montana	Carter	Postmaster	MC
Mr. James V. Keyes 2530 Elm Butte, Montana	Silver Bow	Businessman	BU

Mr. John N. Newland, Butte, Chairman—Accountant

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mrs. Carolyn Frojen Broadus, Montana	Powder River	County Superintendent of Schools	MC
Mr. Jake Ferris Troy, Montana	Lincoln	Retired	M
Mr. H. N. Williamson Sidney, Montana	Richland	C.P.A.	MC
Mr. Oliver Wold Laurel, Montana	Yellowstone	Merchant	BI
Mr. Raymond V. Love Ennis, Montana	Madison	Druggist	BO
Mrs. Audrey S. Herigstad Miles City, Montana	Custer	County Superintendent of Schools	MC
Mr. Roger Christianson Frenchtown, Montana	Missoula	Superintendent of Schools	
Mrs. Amos Olson Union, Montana	Dawson	Housewife	
Mr. Joseph Nyman Geyser	Judith Basin	Rancher	

Mr. M. C. Gallagher, Billings, Chairman—Supt. of Schools

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Miss Margaret Cruikshank Malta, Montana	Phillips	Retired—Supt. of Schools	GL
Mrs. Mable Potts Shelby, Montana	Toole	County Superintendent of Schools	H
Mr. J. Stewart Wright Circle, Montana	McCone	Farmer	
Mrs. Gail Burleigh Route 1 Lewistown, Montana	Fergus	Housewife	L
Mr. Ed Adams Big Timber, Montana	Sweet Grass	Retired Rancher	BO
Mr. Paul Cannon 25 West Park Butte, Montana	Silver Bow	Merchant	BU
Mrs. Floyd Green Lewistown, Montana	Fergus	Former Supt. of Schools	L
Mr. John Shively 719 South Eighth Bozeman, Montana	Gallatin	Superintenant of Schools	BO
Mrs. Milan Halverson North of Helena Helena, Montana	Lewis & Clark	Housewife	

Mr. Charles H. Peck, Miles City, Chairman

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mrs. Alice Fossen Wolf Point, Montana	Roosevelt	County Superintendent of Schools	
Mr. H. E. Davis Cut Bank, Montana	Glacier	Superintendent of Schools	
Mrs. Adeline Barton Missoula, Montana	Missoula	County Superintendent of Schools	
Earl E. Clark Roundup, Montana	Musselshell	Rancher-Legistature	
Mrs. Evelyn Hellinger Devon, Montana	Toole	Housewife-Rancher	
Mr. Donal W. Schneck Shelby, Montana	Toole	Accountant-Oil Co.	
Mr. Watler W. Goetz Plentywood, Montana	Sheridan	High School Principal	
Mrs. James Kearns Townsend, Montana	Broadwater	Housewife-P.T.A	
Mr. Grant Boorman 1116 North 29th Billings, Montana	Yellowstone	Bldg. Material Jobber	
Mr. B. H. Gullickson Big Sandy, Montana	Chouteau	Hardware Dealer	
Mr. Charles Barnard Malta, Montana	Phillips	Rancher	

Mr. Karl W. Erickson, Great Falls, Chairman—Teacher

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Miss Florence Rosean Columbus, Montana	Stillwater	County Superintendent of Schools	BI
Mrs. Agnes Cooper Hamilton, Montana	Ravalli	County Superintendent of Schools	M
Mr. M. J. Lott Twin Bridges, Montana	Madison	Stockgrower	BO
Mrs. Elmer Eklund Barber, Montana	Golden Valley	Housewife (Rancher)	L
Mrs. J. J. Tomalino Intake, Montana	Dawson	Housewife (Rancher)	MC
Mr. John West 637 Park Lane Billings, Montana	Yellowstone	Real Estate & Ins.	BI
Mr. John Herzog, Jr. Yellowstone Valley Miles City, Montana	Custer	Rancher	MC
Miss Florence Hill Deer Lodge, Montana	Powell	County Superintendent of Schools	BU

Mr. Gordon Twedt, Rudyard, Chairman—Farmer

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mrs. Martha Haynes Bozeman, Montana	Gallatin	County Superintendent of Schools	BO
Mrs. Pearl A. Phillips Stanford, Montana	Judith Basin	County Superintendent of Schools	L
Mr. William F. Gillin Forsyth, Montana	Rosebud	Rancher	BI
Mr. Arnold Rieder Boulder, Montana	Jefferson	Rancher	BU
Mrs. Granville Bauer Libby, Montana	Lincoln	Housewife	M
Mrs. Audrey Nissen Harlowton, Montana	Wheatland	Housewife	L
Mr. John M. Cross Glendive, Montana	Dawson	C.P.A.	MC
Mr. Harold G. Skauge Red Lodge, Montana	Carbon	Tractor Dealer	BI
Mrs. Louis Floerchinger Conrad, Montana	Pondera	Housewife	GF

RECORDERS

- Session No. 1—Mrs. Pearl A. Phillips
- Session No. 2—Mrs. Martha Haynes
- Session No. 3—Mrs. Audrey Nissen
- Session No. 4—Mrs. Louis Floerchinger

Mr. Don Foster, Moore, Chairman—Supt. of Schools

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mr. Harry H. Cloke Browning, Montana	Glacier	Superintendent of Schools	H
Mrs. Margaret M. Wright Glendive, Montana	Dawson	County Superintendent of Schools	MC
Mr. Bruce Farrington Valier, Montana	Pondera	Rancher	GF
Mrs. Harold Nordahl Columbus, Montana	Stillwater	Housewife	BI
Mr. Dan J. Geiman Hamilton, Montana	Ravalli	Abstractor	M
Mr. E. Ford Slaght Wolf Point, Montana	Roosevelt	Superintednent of Schools	GL

RECORDERS

- Mrs. Margaret Wright
- Mrs. Harold Nordhal

Mr. C. R. Cahill, Nashua, Chairman—Supt. of Schools

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Mrs. May Y. Sperin Ryegate, Montana	Golden Valley	County Superintendent of Schools	L
Mrs. Glessie Kemp Libby, Montana	Lincoln	County Superintendent of Schools	M
Mr. Lawrence J. Mather Wilsall, Montana	Park	Rancher	BO
Mr. A. M. Boggs Brady, Montana	Chouteau	Rancher	GF
Mrs. Lillian Eastlick Molt, Montana	Stillwater	Housewife (Rancher)	BI
Mr. Percy Lawrence Richey, Montana	Dawson	Store Manager	MC
Mr. W. J. Goldsmith Harlem, Montana	Blaine	Store Manager & Rancher	H
Mrs. F. J. Kirscher Townsend, Montana	Broadwater	Farmer's Wife	BO
Mrs. Maude Whitney (no address)			

RECORDERS

First Session—Mr. Percy Lawrence
 Second Session—Mrs. Glessie Kemp
 Third Session—Mrs. May Y. Sperin
 Fourth Session—Mrs. Lillian Eastlick

Mr. Charles Hood, Miles City, Chairman—Principal

Delegate	County	Occupation	Region
Miss Margaret Holland Great Falls, Montana	Cascade	County Superintendent of Schools	GF
Mrs. Opal Sherle Havre, Montana	Hill	County Superintendent of Schools	H
Mrs. Bess Smurr Polson, Montana	Lake	Farmer	M
Mrs. Andrew Dahl Plentywood, Montana	Sheridan	Farmer's Wife	GL
Mr. Erling Voldal Glasgow, Montana	Valley	Superintendent of Schools	GL
Mr. John C. Alley Whitehall, Montana	Jefferson	Resort Owner	BU
Mr. Vic Davidson Livingston, Montana	Park	County High School Principal	BO
Mrs. Cleo Morgan Roundup, Montana	Musselshell		

APPENDIX II

Pre-Conference Planning Statement

The first meeting of the Pilot Committee for the Montana Conference on Education was held in Helena on March 12, 1955. At this meeting, a policy on discussion subjects was adopted. A suggested outline of discussion subjects was developed and adopted for use at all county, regional and finally, the state conference. A plan for the appointment of delegates by county commissioners throughout the fifty-six counties was adopted. This was later revised as to number of delegates from the larger counties. The date of the state conference was set for September 23rd and 24th.

The second meeting of the Pilot Committee was held at Helena on April 2, 1955. At this meeting, the number of delegates from certain counties was increased commensurate with population. A suggested plan for the conduct of regional conferences was accepted. Dates were set for these regional conferences at nine cities in the state during the month of June. A method of selection of chairmen for the regional conferences was adopted. A plan for a committee of consultants on taxation and finance to travel to all of the regional conferences was developed. Certain materials were to be sent to all of the county delegates. A budget for the entire year was adopted. The date of the state meeting was changed to October 7th and 8th so as not to conflict with the wheat harvest which usually takes place during September.

The third meeting of the state Pilot Committee was held in Helena on May 14th. At this meeting, all regional chairmen and co-chairmen from the nine regions were invited to be present. Considerable discussion of the exact method for handling the regional conferences took place. Definite policies as to the conduct of the conferences were set. Publicity plans were discussed. Provision was made for keeping a record of the proceedings, as well as writing a report of the various regional conferences. Special invitations were issued to various groups so as to insure public participation.

During the month of May a number of counties in the State held county conferences. In some counties, several meetings were held prior to the county conference.

During the month of June the nine regional conferences were held throughout the state and reports were written covering the opinions developed at these meetings.

Public participation in the nine regional conferences was not as good as had been expected. The average conference attracted between fifty and one hundred people. The average number of delegates attending each of the conferences was between twenty and thirty, so there was definitely public participation.

The fourth meeting of the State Pilot Committee took place in Helena on September 16th. This meeting was devoted largely to planning the details of the state conference plus the selection of delegates from Montana to the White House Conference. The latter subject was discussed first and took from approximately 10:30 in the morning until about 4:00 in the afternoon. A great many names were discussed and a sincere, conscientious effort was made so that the final selection represented the State well—from the viewpoint of geographical representation, occupational representation, and a proper balance between educators and non-educators. This meeting also named four delegates-at-large to attend the state conference and listed certain individuals who could act as consultants for the state conference.

Attached herewith are some records of the state committee meetings to indicate the progress made at each meeting and the necessity for the meeting.

APPENDIX III

PROGRAM

Montana Conference on Education OCTOBER 7th and 8th, 1955 STATE CAPITOL — HELENA, MONTANA

THURSDAY—October 6th

6 to 9 p.m., Placer Hotel—Registration

Desk will be available in lobby for those who arrive the night preceding the conference.

FRIDAY—October 7th

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.—Registration, Rotunda State Capitol

10:00 a.m. Opening Session—House Chamber—State Capitol

Welcome by Governor Aronson

Brief outline Conference procedure

10:30 a.m.—First Workshop Session

"WHAT ARE OUR SCHOOL BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT NEEDS? OUR TRANSPORTATION NEEDS?"

Delegates will report to their assigned discussion table for the discussion on the above question. Each discussion table will have as its chairman for this session a chairman or co-chairman of one of our nine regional meetings or a member of the State Committee.

12:15 to 1:15 Buffet Luncheon

Lunch will be served in the Capitol Building, House Chambers, and will be **gratis** to **registered delegates**. Your badge will be your ticket. Others may eat in the Mitchell building or wherever they choose.

1:15 to 3:30 Second Workshop Session

"WHAT SHOULD OUR SCHOOLS ACCOMPLISH?"

You will remain at your same table discussion group to consider the above question. The recorders from the morning session will meet in room 326, House Lobby, to compile and write the report from the various discussion tables on the first question. Therefore, another recorder for session number two will be appointed by each table.

3:30 to 3:45 Coffee break

3:45 to 5:15 Third Workshop Session

"HOW CAN WE GET ENOUGH COMPETENT TEACHERS AND KEEP THEM?"

Recorders from the first session will return to their original tables for this discussion question, while the recorders of the second session meet in room 326, House Lobby, to compile the report on the opinions of their tables from the second session.

6:30 Conference Banquet at Placer Hotel (Informal)

Address by Mr. Henry Toy, Jr., Executive Director
National Citizens Commission for the Public Schools.

Film—"Mike Makes His Mark"

(Dinner is gratis to registered delegates. A limited number of tickets will be on sale at registration desk for non-delegates.)

SATURDAY—October 8th

9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Fourth Workshop Session

"In view of our answers to questions 1, 2, and 3,

HOW CAN WE FINANCE THIS SCHOOL PROGRAM?"

Delegates will return to the same rooms and original discussion tables for the consideration of the above question. Recorders for the third workshop session will meet in the recorders room, 326, to compile the written report on session number 3. When this report is compiled, they should rejoin their original discussion tables to participate in the financial discussion question.

12:15 p.m. Lunch—Capitol Building

This will be gratis to registered delegates.

1:00 p.m. Final Conference Reports

At the conclusion of lunch, the final conference reports representing the consensus of opinions of all discussion tables, as compiled by the recorders, will be presented to the general assembly of all delegates.

We hope to conclude this session by 3 p.m. so that you can get started for home.

APPENDIX IV

Tentative Rules of the Conference

1. Please report promptly to all meetings. Punctuality will be necessary if the time schedule is to be maintained. Committee Chairman will start the meetings on time.
2. When you registered you were assigned to a definite table number. That will be your table for all four discussion periods.
3. Only Registered Delegates and Registered County Superintendents may partake in the table discussions. Observers are welcome in all discussion rooms but will not be seated at the discussion table nor take part in the discussions unless requested by Chairman.
4. The Discussion Table Chairman will at the beginning of each meeting, appoint a recorder. Following the conclusion of the discussion session, the recorders will assemble during the next discussion session, in Room 326 to present the conclusions of their discussion table. They will then return to their original tables to continue in the discussion. At 1:00 p.m., Saturday, there will be a general meeting of all of the delegates in the House Chamber. At this meeting, reports from the four recorders' meetings will be presented. These reports will be the summaries of the conclusions of all the discussion tables on each of the four topics. At this final session only registered delegates may be on the main floor of the House Chamber. All observers and visitors are asked to sit in the galleries.
5. Please wear your registration badge at all times so that you can be readily identified by table chairmen as an official delegate.
6. At the final session only registered delegates may take place in the discussions. At the final session a delegate will be permitted to speak only once on a subject until all other delegates who wish to, may have had an opportunity to express their points of view on the same subject.



3 REPORTER PRtg. & SUPPLY CO.

APPENDIX V

Hints for Discussion Table Chairmen

1. See that persons present get acquainted.
2. At the beginning of the session appoint a Recorder and define his duties. This recorder will meet with those from other tables to prepare the Conference Report on the particular question under discussion. It is, therefore, important that a top-flight person be appointed as Recorder for each session.
3. Suggest a workable plan that will enable the group to cover all topics in the time available.
4. Help the group to summarize ideas for the benefit of the Recorder.
5. Encourage reticent persons to participate.
6. Try to avoid letting a few persons monopolize the discussion.
7. Keep an atmosphere of free and friendly discussion.
8. Encourage all points of view.
9. Keep on the track.
10. Show no prejudices.
11. Only Registered Delegates will be seated at the discussion table proper. However the session is open to observers who may be seated at chairs adjacent to the table. It is a rule of the Conference that these observers are not to participate in the discussion unless invited to by the Table Discussion Chairman at the request of some delegate. In the case of participation by an observer it would seem proper that it be only to answer a question or clear up a point of fact. It would not seem desirable that observers be invited to participate in the general discussion for any length of time.
12. Be sure your Table Recorder attends the Recorders meeting at the session immediately following so that your table's viewpoint will be represented in the final report on each discussion topic.

